

Life Story: Feivel Brasiliten (1912 – 1991)

The Story of the Brasiliten Family from Drohobycz and Vicinity

Feivel was born November 10th, 1912, the youngest son of Chaim Hirsch and Henia Spinard. His three older brothers were: Isaac, a lawyer (b. 1906), Zelig (b. 1907), and Joseph (b. 1909).

The family lived in a basement apartment under the Lauterbach synagogue in Drohobycz on Podwale street, where they also had a book-binding business. The three younger brothers worked with their father in the business.

Feivel was a member of the Betar movement. In 1937 he married Miriam Lebber. Their son Bronek was born in 1939.

In 1941 Feivel was drafted to the Russian army where he served in the antiaircraft projectors unit.

Feivel's entire family perished in the holocaust, most of them in the Bełżec and Majdanek concentration camps in Poland in 1942.

The mother, Henia Spinrad Brasiliten was 60 years old when she was murdered in 1942.

Zelig Brasiliten (age 35) and his wife Feiga Tillman (age 31) were murdered in 1942.

The father, Chaim Hirsch and brother, Joseph were sent to the Płaszów labor camp near Krakow where they worked for the Germans in binding books and documents until 1944. Chaim Hirsch perished in 1944 and Joseph was transferred in August 1944 to the Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria where he perished in December 1944 in the gas chambers.

Feivel's wife, Miriam Lebber Brasiliten (age 28) and their son Abraham Bronek (age 3) were shot on a street in Drohobycz in 1942 after their hiding place was discovered.

Hanna Wolf Brasiliten, Joseph's wife, perished in the camps at the age of 31 together with their daughter Mina who was only two years old.

Isaac Brasiliten, his wife Yetti Meger and their son Abraham were in a hiding place until 1943 when they tried to flee to Czechoslovakia, but were captured and shot at the border. Isaac was 37, Yetti was 35 and little Abraham was four years old.

After he was released from the army and until the end of the war, Feivel remained in Russia and made his living on the black market. He was arrested several times but managed to escape.

After the war he returned to Poland to Nowa Ruda. From there he moved on to Czechoslovakia and then to Austria to Ebensee near Hallein, a German military base that was converted to a Displaced

Persons (DP) camp. Ironically, Ebensee was also an extermination camp, part of the Mauthausen network where Feivel's brother Joseph perished. There he met and married Chana Trost. They moved to a DP camp near Milan, Italy, where Feivel became a camp leader in 1947.

Their son Yacov (who was first named Chaim Hirsch after Feivel's father) was born in November 1947 in the Maggiore hospital in Milan.

The family immigrated to Israel in 1948. In 1952 they welcomed another son, Hanoch (named after Feivel's mother Henia).

In Israel Feivel established a large book binding business in Bat-Yam with several partners. They bound all the books of the Yavne publishing house as well as the Cassuto bible and the Michlal encyclopedia...

Tragically, Chana Trost Brasiliten passed away in 1954 on the eve of Memorial Day after a battle with cancer. She was 31 years old.

In 1956, Feivel married Esther Webber and adopted her daughter Yonah (He placed a high value on the family continuation).

Feivel had a surgery to replace a joint in his leg after a hit and run accident. Unfortunately due to surgical complications, Feivel passed away on March 9th, 1991.

As of 2016 the family consists of 8 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

The extended Brasiliten family lived before the war in Galicia in Drohobycz, Boryslaw, Stryj, Sambor and Lvov. Most of the family (numbering tens of people) who were merchants, lawyers, physicians, pharmacists and trades people perished in the holocaust.

Four cousins in addition to Feivel were survivors:

Three sons of Chaim Binyamin Brasiliten:

Arye Brasiliten (Binyamini) lived in Jerusalem. He passed away and was survived by a daughter and a granddaughter;

Shlomo Brasiliten, a pharmacist lived in Jerusalem, passed away childless;

Henri Brasiliten lived in France and was survived by a daughter;

Solomon Mayer Brasiliten, the son of Feivel Ber and Perla Kriegel survived the Mauthausen death camp and immigrated to Canada. He passed away in 1999 at the age of 85. He was survived by a son, daughter and three grandchildren.

Other Brasiliten Family members, relatives of Feivel who perished in the holocaust:

Perla Kriegel Brasiliten perished in 1943 at the age of 56;

The family of Perla Kriegel Brasiliten and Feivel Ber Brasiliten:

Esther Brasiliten Erlich, 30, her husband Zygmund Erlich, 37, and their son, 8 years old perished in 1942;

Leon Leibush, 15, perished in 1943;

Meilech, 26, perished in 1942;

Tzila, 21, perished in 1943.

Joseph Saul, the son of Feivel Ber Brasiliten and Perl Ros Binderman perished in 1945 at the age of 55.

Joseph's and Regina's Brasiliten son, Philip, perished in 1945 at the age of 21.

The family of Abraham Brasiliten and Rivka Mindel Warmuglich:

Asher, 64, perished in 1942;

Esther, 58, perished in 1942;

Chana Brasiliten Berger, 61 and her husband Itzhak Berger, 64, perished in 1942;

Jacob, 71, perished in 1942.

Jacob's and his wife Zlata's daughters - Sally Brasiliten, 39, and Sonia Brasiliten, 33, perished in 1942.

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